

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-13 remain in the application. Claim 6 is hereby canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 7, 11, and 13 are hereby amended. No new matter is being added.

Claim Objection and Allowable Subject Matter

Original claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. More particularly, with regards to claim 6, the Examiner has stated that he "cannot find any applicable prior art and/or suggestion disclosing statistical f-test is passed if a ratio of $\max(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ divided by $\min(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ is less than a threshold value, and wherein σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 comprise the variances of the adjacent image regions in combination to the rest of the limitations of claims 1, 4 and 5."

Claim 1 is hereby amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 6. Specifically, applicants has amended claim 1 to add "wherein the multiple statistical tests include a test of whether the adjacent image regions have a ratio of $\max(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ divided by $\min(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ that is less than a threshold value, wherein σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 comprise the variances of the adjacent image regions."

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is now patentable over the cited art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is now in form for allowance.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 depend from amended claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5 and 7-10 are now also in form for allowance.

Similar to claim 1, claim 11 is amended to add “wherein the multiple statistical tests include a test of whether the adjacent image regions have a ratio of $\max(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ divided by $\min(\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2)$ that is less than a threshold value, wherein σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 comprise the variances of the adjacent image regions.” Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 11 is now in form for allowance for similar reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Claim 12 depends from amended claim 11. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 is now also in form for allowance.

Again, similar to claim 1, claim 13 is amended to incorporate the limitation of original claim 6. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 13 is now in form for allowance for similar reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 1.

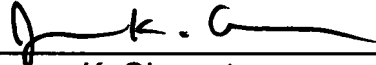
For the above discussed reasons, applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims in the application are now in form for allowance.

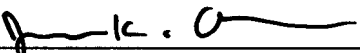
Conclusion

For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are now in form for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned for any questions.
Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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